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ARCHÆOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY.¹

The American Association for the Advancement of Science held its thirty-seventh annual meeting at Cleveland, Ohio, August 15th to 21st, 1888. The meetings were held in the Central High School, which, though some distance from the hotels, had good street-car communications. The building was admirably suited to the needs of the Association. The rooms were ample both in number and size, while the auditorium, large enough for all general meetings, could be darkened for afternoon lectures with lantern views.

The citizens of Cleveland took great interest in the meetings and the local committee made every arrangement possible for the comfort and convenience of visitors. The ladies in charge of entertainments, receptions, etc., devoted themselves to these duties during the entire week and were eminently successful in everything they undertook. Lunch was provided daily in the basement of the building. Thursday afternoon was devoted to receptions given by the citizens at their homes, and some of the magnificent and luxurious residences on Euclid Avenue were thrown open and the members of the Association hospitably received.

SECTION H.—ANTHROPOLOGY.

Dr. C. C. Abbott, of Trenton, N. J., was president of this section, with Dr. Frank Baker, of Washington, D. C., secretary. The meetings were well attended and much interest was shown in the proceedings. The section was kept busy with the reading of the thirty-two papers and their consequent discussion, closing only late in the afternoon of the last day. The session of Wednesday, August 15th, opening day, was devoted to the presidential address, "Evidences of the Antiquity of Man in Eastern North America." Dr. Abbott reviewed the discoveries of paleolithic implements made on this continent, devoting himself principally to those made at Trenton, N. J., by himself; at Little Falls, Minnesota, by Miss Franc E. Babbitt in 1875; and in the Valley of the Little Miami at Loveland, Ohio, by Dr. C. F. Metz in 1886, and the continuation thereof down to the present summer by himself and Mr. Wilson. The finding of the obsidian spear point by Prof. W. J. McGee in the quarternary deposits of Lake Lahontan, Nevada, was also noticed. He concluded from the evidence, first, that paleolithic man did not become extinct, and second, that his descendants attained an advanced

¹This department is edited by Thomas Wilson, Esq., Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

degree of culture in the land of their forefathers. "We might maintain that we have his descendants in the Eskimo, and that they were finally driven north by the Indian, who, as is conceded by all students, migrated hither at a period, which, archæologically considered, was not exceedingly remote."

He devoted a portion of his address to a consideration of the date of the paleolithic period in America, and cites Rev. G. F. Wright of Oberlin, Ohio, thus: "To say that man was here before the close of the glacial period only fixes a minimum point as to his antiquity. How long he may have been here previous to that, must be determined by other considerations. The term 'close of the glacial period' is itself an indefinite expression. The glacial period was a long time in closing, the erosion of the Niagara gorge began at a time long subsequent to the deposit of gravel at Trenton and at Madisonville. Between these two events a sufficient time must have elapsed for the ice-front to have receded a hundred miles or more, or all the distance from New York to Albany, since only at that stage of its retreat could the Niagara river begin its work. The deposits at Trenton and Madisonville took place while the ice-sheet still lingered in the southern water-shed of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio." Dr. Abbott concludes, "There was a time when, to all appearances, American Archæology would have to be squeezed into the crammed quarters of ten thousand years; but we are now pretty sure of twenty or even thirty thousand years in which to spread out in proper sequence and without confusion, the long train of human activities that happened during prehistoric time. If we accept the most moderate estimate of the length of postglacial time, some 6,000 years, we have an interglacial time (that is, between the first and second epochs) from 18,000 to 60,000 years, and to this must be added the long stretch of time during which the second epoch of cold continued. Assuming that geologists have made no mistake, archæology has time enough and to spare. At no period was the continent uninhabitable, however thick or wide-reaching the ice, or deeply submerged the lower lying areas. There was still land enough for all the mammalian life of that period, and it flourished at the foot of the advancing ice-sheet and re-entered every track as the glaciers withdrew. In that time we had the mastodon and mammoth, reindeer and bison, musk-ox and moose, and the man of that period was familiar with them all."

A general session of the Association was held in the evening to hear the retiring president, Prof. S. P. Langley, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, deliver his address, entitled, "The History of a Doctrine." The "Doctrine" was that of Radiant Heat or Energy. This address was profound and very learned, and yet by his incisive style of writing and dignified delivery, the Professor made it easily

understood by a popular audience. It is published in *Science* for August 17.

Thursday, August 16th.—“Certain prehistoric ornaments found in Mississippi,” by Prof. R. B. Fulton, of the University of the Mississippi. He presented about thirty prehistoric beads from Lincoln county, Mississippi. The material was jasper, reddish-brown, mottled with a lighter shade and very hard. Their forms were cylindrical, and also of the shape of deer and birds. They were all, or nearly all, polished and drilled. Prof. Fulton said he had never seen any similar beads except those in the Smithsonian exhibit now open at the Centennial Exposition at Cincinnati. Mr. Wilson said he had prepared that display and had chosen those from the many in the National Museum to show a series descriptive of the method and work of the drilling of these hard substances by the prehistoric man.

Dr. Frank Boas, the editor of *Science*, New York city, delivered a learned address on the “Development of the Civilization of Northwest America.” He raised a query as to the possibility of establishing a connection between Asiatic and American tribes, and noted many indications of relationship, and said the Indian tribes of the northwest coast of America far excel their neighbors in arts and industries. The tribes of the northwest coast belonged to many linguistic stocks. In British Columbia alone were eight distinct tongues. He spoke of the striking similarity of physique between certain tribes of the northwest coast with certain Asiatic tribes. The customs and legends of these tribes were much alike, but in their myths the speaker found the greatest coincidence. His paper, though replete with facts, was but little more than the announcement of his theory, and he closed as follows: “But before drawing further conclusions we must analyze the civilization of northwest America in order that we may know what we have to compare. Only after this is done can a study of the numerous striking analogies be successful in demonstrating the Asiatic origin of these northwest tribes.”

This speaker used the term nation as synonymous with people, and civilization as synonymous with culture, to which Major Powell took exception.

The Rev. W. H. Beauchamp, of Baldwinsville, N. Y., read a paper, “The Onondagas of To-day.” This was almost a complete history of this tribe as it exists at present, and has existed during the present century. They now number about four hundred. They have forgotten their own earlier history, and their traditions are uncertain, contradictory, and valueless as history. Illustrations of this were given by the dozen.

The speaker gave his own recollections of the Onondagas and of their manners and customs during fifty years past. He described

their feasts, their marriages, their wampum, their amusements, and their modes of life.

Dr. D. G. Brinton read a paper on "The Alleged Mongolian Affinities of the American Race," in which he demonstrated that no such affinities existed. His conclusion was the opposite of that of Dr. Boas. An abstract is as follows :

Many recent writers assert that the American or Red race presents various traits which bring it into close relationship with the Mongolian. These alleged resemblances may be classed as either of language, of culture, or of physical appearance. In language the Eskimo has been said to resemble Ural-Altaic tongues of northern Asia ; and the Otomi of Mexico has been asserted to be monosyllabic and isolating like the Chinese. Both these statements are proved erroneous by recent researches. The American languages differ entirely from any of the Mongolian group.

In culture there are various similarities but not more, and not other, than can be pointed out between any two groups of early civilizations, and no one of them is evidence of intercourse.

The physical similarities relied upon begin with the color of the skin. But no American tribe shows the peculiar hue of the Mongol. The hair, though straight in both races, differs in color and to some extent in shape of cross section. The oblique or "Chinese" eye is by no means usual in the American race, scarcely more so than among the whites, and is, moreover, of much less importance than has been maintained. The shape of the skull is markedly different. The Mongolian head is round, that of the Eskimo is notably long, and of other tribes mixed. The nasal index of the American Indian approaches that of the modern European much closer than it does the Mongolian. There is in certain tribes some general physiological resemblance, and this is all upon which can be based the alleged Mongolian affinities of the American race ; and this is of but slight importance.

The discussion on this paper was most animated, although it almost immediately left the subject.

Prof. E. S. Morse, of Salem, Mass., supported the speaker. Mr. Horatio Hale, of Toronto, made some observations, as did Prof. Mason. Major Powell dilated upon the importance of language, and told how it alone was the true test of racial affinity. He described man in the paleolithic period as having spread over and occupied almost the entire world ; he said the evidence of his existence and occupation were certainly to be found on every continent. And he described the formation of language by the man of the paleolithic period. He showed how different modes of speech were begun and different dialects grew. He asserted the tendency of man to be, to consolidate and reduce the number of his languages rather than to divide and extend them.

Prof. Morse said this would make a different language for every fish-pond around which the prehistoric man assembled, and denied the value of language in determining racial affinities in prehistoric times.

Major Powell answered by declaring his theory of language as a racial test had no application to man earlier than we had knowledge of his language.

Dr. Brinton sought to close the discussion by saying that different races might employ the same language, and that according to his theory, Major Powell could prove, what we know from history and from our senses to be an absurdity, to wit: that because they spoke the same language, the white and the black man now occupying the United States belonged to the same race.

Major Powell had the final word to say that his opponents had constructed a man of straw that they might enjoy the pleasure of thrashing him. His own position was, that in the beginning all men sprang from the same stock, or if not, they at least found themselves in the same condition; that there were then no distinct or separate races of men, and that the divisions and subdivisions of race, blood, language, culture or physique had been accomplished little by little, and they had thus finally developed into the different races with their different languages and cultures. But that they still all shaded off into each other and ran together; and, whether counted sideways through the collateral branches in the present day, or counted backwards, each through his own ancestors, it was impossible to find an exact dividing line between races. So all the world was now, as it ever had been, akin, of one race and one blood; and that the subdivisions into races was but arbitrary; the work of man and not of God.

This discussion was the most impetuous and interesting of any in the section. The speakers were able, ardent, fluent, and at times, Major Powell especially, arose to eloquence.

Mr. Hilborne T. Cresson was down for two papers, but he was absent and they were read by abstract. They related to his discovery of two paleolithic implements found by him in what he calls modified drift, one on the east fork of White river, Jackson county, Indiana, and the other in the Trenton gravels, but on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware river. Cuts of the implements were shown but the implements themselves were not present.

Friday, August 17th.—Colonel Garrick Mallery, of the Bureau of Ethnology, Washington, D. C., read a paper entitled "Recent Discovered Algonkin Pictographs." Colonel Mallery has been engaged for ten years in the investigation of the sign language of the North American Indian, and is the highest authority on the subject. Colonel Mallery has just returned from a month's visit among the Micmacs of Nova

Scotia and around the Bay of Fundy. He had discovered many new pictographs, tracings of which he had taken and presented to the audience. The lecture-room was decorated with these and other specimens in a manner highly interesting. Colonel Mallery told of the investigations and discoveries made by himself and Dr. W. J. Hoffman, and of their comparisons of the real objects with the descriptions made by Schoolcraft in his voluminous publications issued in 1853, and showed that he (S.) had fairly represented the substance, but sometimes with exaggeration. The principal part of Colonel Mallery's paper was devoted to a description of the signs and symbols which were on the charts, and to a translation of their messages.

Remarks were made by several persons commendatory of Colonel Mallery's labors. Prof. Mason said: "We have before us to-day a record of the beginning of a written language. We are standing in the presence of the birth of literature." And he asked a vote of thanks to Colonel Mallery.

Prof. J. E. Todd, of Tabor, Iowa, presented the next paper, entitled "Some Ancient Diggings in Nebraska," which he illustrated by a sketch upon the blackboard. These were at Newawka on the Weeping Water creek. They were supposed to be pits dug for the extraction of flint. They bore some resemblance to the quarry at Flint Ridge, Ohio.

Dr. D. G. Brinton presented "Early Man in Spain." He dealt first with the chipped flints discovered by Ribera at Otta, which were believed to come from the miocene. He said the implements of the neolithic period in Spain have a striking similarity in size and form with those common to the United States.

The Basques are the most ancient known inhabitants of Spain and Portugal. They are believed to have lived there at the time of the formation of the shell-heaps, which seem older here than in Denmark. The Basque language has many peculiarities of the typical American Indian tongue, such as the Algonkin. Dr. Brinton exhibited a map on which the six hundred fathom line of the Atlantic ocean was indicated. An upheaval of the land to that altitude would join the continent of Europe with that of North America by way of England, Scotland, the Faroë Islands, Iceland, Labrador, and the New England coast. Many things seem to confirm this theory, which is an opinion held by many geologists. The existence of this land-bridge across the Atlantic ocean once established, many ethnologic problems relating to the American Indian would be at once solved.

Mr. Wilson complimented Dr. Brinton upon his paper and continued in the same line. Speaking of the endurance of languages he said the Basque language was still spoken in France and Spain, and there were many persons now living there in the retired rural

districts who could speak no other. The aged couple who occupied the house at the entrance of the cavern of Laugerie Basse, excavated by M. Massanet, speak only the Basque language, and any one visiting there must take with him an interpreter who speaks French and Basque.

On the other hand, the language of the Normans, who came as invaders and settled permanently in that province in the north of France which bears their name, had entirely died out. It never established itself as a separate language, but joining itself to the French made a dialect, a bastard language, which was neither the one nor the other. The Gallic language brought from Wales or Cornwall into Brittany had survived side by side with the French and continued as a separate language in spite of all efforts of the government to root it out. It was now a law of France that none of these ancient languages, at once foreign and indigenous to France, shall be taught in the public schools.

Mr. Wilson described the dolmens, menhirs, and other monuments of Spain and France and told something of the efforts made to rescue and preserve them.

Mrs. Anita Newcomb McGee, wife of Prof. McGee, of Washington, D. C., read the paper of the afternoon, entitled "American Communities." This lady had one of the largest audiences of the entire meeting. She was listened to with close attention and received many congratulations. She described in detail with the necessary statistics, the seven principal communistic societies which had been established during the past century in the United States. Her arguments were fairly made and her deductions correct. She did not undervalue a benefit, nor overstate an objection, yet she said she was forced to the conclusion that communism could not permanently rival independent competition. She closed with three fundamental objections to, or causes for failure of communities.

1. A community does not admit that wide differentiation of labor and variety of occupation which is found outside, and is considered a sign of progress.

2. A community is an institution intermediate between the individual and the State, and is antagonistic to that other more natural intermediate institution—the family. This has been felt by community founders, and they have tried three methods of disposing of the family. *A.* Abolishing it by celibacy. The climax is here rapidly reached, and after, it is impossible to prevent a steady decrease in numbers. *B.* Abolishing it by complex marriage. This is a logical settlement of the rivalry between community and family, *i.e.*, making the two one, but it so pronounced a return to conditions long abandoned in the course of evolution, that later or monogamic instincts (now normal) refuse to be suppressed, and finally cause the failure of this attempted solution. *C.* The reten-

tion of the family, which means one community within another. Each person has then two interests to serve, and in the often necessary choice between them, he cares for his own family, even though it be sometimes to the detriment of the higher circle—the community.

3. The essential object and aim of Communist and Socialist alike, is equally to support and reward the worthy and unworthy, the practical effect of which is to suppress all stimulus to labor, and to reduce all men as far as possible to a dead level of mediocrity.

That form of social organization, however, which tends to produce the ablest men and stimulate them to highest efforts must, other things equal, make the greatest progress in social evolution. Communism is satisfied with mediocrity, and here is its weakness. On the other hand its strength lies in its unity of interests—that is, in its element of co-operation.

Saturday was devoted to an excursion given by the local committee to members of the Association. The steamer "City of Cleveland" left her dock at 8 A.M. well filled with passengers. Her first stop was at Kelly Island, where, under the guidance of Prof. Foote and Mr. Severance, the visitors were conducted to the great glacial groovings in the solid rock which had been exposed to view for the purpose of this visit. The steamer then continued to Put-in-Bay. Everything possible was done by the committee to make it a day of pleasure. The day was superb and the lake smooth as glass. Concerts were given on board, and amusements, scientific and dexterous, were the order in the smoking-room. The steamer returned at sundown.

Monday, August 20th.—Mr. A. Wanner, of York, Penna., Principal of the High School, exhibited some unfinished banner stones from the Susquehanna river, and read a description of the methods by which they were made, which is being prepared for publication in the *NATURALIST*.

Horatio Hale, Esq., of Clinton, Ontario, read an elaborate paper, subject, "The Aryan Race, Its Origin and Character," which is being published in *extenso*.

Mr. J. W. Smith exhibited some mound-builder relics from Iowa.

Prof. F. W. Putnam described the Serpent Mound of Adams county, Ohio, and its surroundings. This lecture was delivered in the auditorium and was accompanied by photographs of the mound, showing its restorations and the various explorations in its immediate neighborhood by means of lantern views projected upon the screen.

Prof. Wm. Libbey, Jr., of Princeton College, described "Some of the Characteristics of the Yakutal Indians of Alaska." He compared the strength of the men who spent their time in hunting and fishing and amusements with that of the women who did all

the labor. He mentioned their aptness in mechanical arts and their strict idea of property. They were highly superstitious and did many things to secure good fortune. A whole tribe would get baptized by the missionary in order to change their luck, and when their luck did not change the missionary had to. Their numbers were diminishing, but this was due principally to changes in diet and clothing, for in that climate the canned beef and cotton overalls of the white proved but poor substitutes for seal-fat on the inside and sealskin without.

Dr. D. G. Brinton, of Media, Penna., described some "Traits of Primitive Speech." His abstract was as follows:

Language was not born in a day. Primitive utterance was of course not the same everywhere. By studying languages which have suffered least by contact with others we can catch some glimpses of the character of man's earliest significant utterances. I begin with some observations on the phonetic elements. In all European tongues the mere letters of the alphabet have no meaning. Their value in a word is fixed. Arranged in a word they convey its sound and sense. Judging by certain American examples this was not the case in primitive speech. In referring to the Tinne language Bishop Farrand asserts that in primitive speech "a" expressed matter, "e" existence, "i" force or energy, "o" existence doubtful and "u" existence absent. These vowels were put in action by single or double consonants. These consonantal sounds were sixty-three in number. The labials expressed the idea of time and space, the dentals the termination of force, the nasals motion in repetition, the gutturals motion in curves, the "h" ideas of command. The Cree language, to quote from the same authority, resembles the Tinne no more closely than does the French the Chinese. Nevertheless, the same peculiarity of materially significant phonetic elements is discovered. I find but little, yet some, evidence in the different groups of American tongues in favor of the theory which maintains that there is some fixed relation between sound and sense in the radicals of languages. "N" expresses the notion of the *ego*, or myselfness in many languages. "K" is associated with the idea of otherness. In many American languages the phonetic elements are vague and fluctuating. In referring to the Klamath language Dr. Behrend writes: "The same person pronounces the same word differently and when his attention is called to it he will insist that it is the same." Some of the consonantal sounds are not true elementary sounds, but in primitive languages had to have some other consonant associated with them. Phonetic elements were often inadequate to express the idea. In the Indian languages, emphasis, action, and modification of the vocal expressions seem to have constituted an essential part. The stress laid on a vowel sound often alters its meaning. In the domain of lexicography,

primitive speech presents a very curious phenomenon. In Tinne the same word may express good or bad, high or low. In Cree the union of opposite significations reappear in the ultimate rudiments of the language and numerous series of opposite ideas are developments from the same original sounds. The gradual development of grammar is strikingly illustrated in these languages. Subject, verb, direct object and remote object were all expressed in one word. Primitive words expressed being in relation, and hence partake of the nature of verbs. Primitive man did not connect his sentences. They followed one another disjointedly. Relative pronoun and conjunction are absent in American languages. Few American tongues have adjectives. The question has arisen did primitive man model his sounds after what he heard or what he saw? The former opinion has been most popular. His earliest sounds seem to have been expressive of motion and rest, energy and its absence, space and direction, color, form, and the like.

Tuesday, August 21st.—Horatio Hale, Esq., read a paper on "An International Language," for scientific and other purposes. In this he dissected the Volapük and showed its many errors. He advocated a language founded upon a more scientific basis. His paper is published in *The Critic*, N. Y., of August 25.

Mr. Wilson doubted the success of the experiment and expressed his belief that no new language could be impressed upon the people by any vote or decree however authoritative. He cited the persistency of the Basque and Gallic languages in France and the many dialects extending over all Europe; and this in spite of all efforts to uproot or consolidate them. He thought a common language might be established between the people of different countries by the different governments uniting in the choice of a language (one of the living ones), to be taught in the schools of the country. We Americans could adduce many arguments why English should be chosen as the common language. But suppose the governments should be unable to agree upon it and German should be chosen. Then in all English-speaking countries there would be taught in the public schools English and German; in France, French and German; in Italy, Italian and German; in Spain, Spanish and German, and so on. Thus every one would be able to speak his own language and a common language which every other person of whatever nationality would also be able to speak.

Prof. MacFarlane elaborated with approval Mr. Hale's method, and commented upon the defects of Volapük. The discussion was continued by Prof. Mason and Dr. Brinton.

To be continued.